

# The Marble Hill Press.

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**MARBLE HILL, MISSOURI**  
Good intentions may receive some notice, but only accomplishment gains applause.

In China, twelve miles from Lion Chok, there is a mountain of alum which yields 100 tons yearly.

The Methodists have 142 missionaries in China, the Presbyterians 209, and the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions 110.

From the way some people act, one would think it wouldn't be safe for them to go to sleep for fear they would attempt to turn over and would roll off the earth.

Recent floods in upper, central, and southern Italy, which threatened the lines of railway, have brought to the attention of the government the necessity of replanting forests on the hillsides.

The largest sturgeon was caught recently in the North Sea. It weighed 225 pounds, but the delight of the fishermen was tempered by the fact that it did \$750 worth of damage to the nets before it was killed.

In New South Wales a new use for the photograph has been found. A candidate who found it impossible to visit all parts of the sparsely settled region he wished to represent in the legislature dictated his speech into an instrument and sent a number of copies about for his constituents to hear, a large picture of himself helping the voters to know whom they were voting for.

Citizens of Escanaba, Mich., are now all agog over the doings of a Chicago man who fought a huge bear the other day, repulsed the onslaughts of the animal, outwrestled the creature in the clinches and drove it off defeated. This feat may have seemed remarkable for Escanaba, but no Chicagoan who has battled for a place upon the cable cars of that city for the last few years would think it even more than ordinary.

Russia is considering a new move for leasing the oil lands owned by the crown in the district of Bakou, in order to reduce the price of coal oil, which within the last few years has been raised exorbitantly. It is proposed that after 1900 the lessee shall pay to the government 40 per cent of the oil produced "in natura," so that the government can become a competitor in the lease of the article. Heretofore the lessee paid a certain tax in cash.

The reunion of the North and South will be commemorated in a novel way by the state of New Hampshire, through the presentation of appropriately inscribed bronze tablets to the two most recent additions to the navy—the battleships Alabama and Kearsarge. A commission appointed to recommend a suitable gift from New Hampshire to the Kearsarge reported in favor of a tablet and added the suggestion that, as the old Kearsarge once fought and sunk the old Alabama, it would be a pleasing pledge to the reunion if a replica of the tablet for the new Kearsarge were placed on the new Alabama.

According to a report of Maj.-Gen. Otis to the war department from Feb. 10 to April 29 of this year, there were received at the port of Manila 350,000 bales of Manila hemp. Additional quantities of that hemp were coming in at the latter date as rapidly as coasting vessels could be secured to transport the same. The receipts this year promise to be as large as those of any preceding year. The report characterizes the statement that the insurgent authorities threaten to kill any of the natives found cleaning hemp as being treated for the purpose of keeping up the prevailing high prices.

That part of the Congressional Record Index which gives the history of all the bills and joint resolutions presented becomes, upon the adjournment of congress, interesting as a basis of review. The references given in this history show the successive stages of legislation. For example, here is the history of Senate bill No. 268: To amend the Revised Statutes of the United States relating to the northern district of New York. Introduced by Mr. Platt of New York and referred to Committee on Judiciary. Reported back with amendments. Amended and passed senate. Referred to House committee on Judiciary. Reported back with amendments. Consideration objected to in House. Debated and passed House. Senate disagreed to House amendments. House insists on its amendments. Conference appointed. Conference report made and agreed to. Examined and signed. Approved by president.

Vienna's Academy of Sciences has decided to collect phonographic records and store them in one of the Vienna libraries. The collection will include, first, specimens of every European language and dialect, to which will be added later on non-European languages; second, the finest contemporary musical performances, with the national airs and tunes of all races, and, third, speeches or phrases uttered by celebrated men. The academy is trying to find some more durable material than is now employed to take the impression of the sounds.

The Scotchman who invented the Mafeking blend of porridge received a bonus of \$5 from the government, so valuable was it to the garrison's ration supply, it being equal to six weeks' additional provisions. The natives prefer it to any other food.

Notwithstanding the difficulties and dangers attending a trip of from 1,200 to 1,400 miles over snow and ice in the most inclement season of the year, no less than 700 people left Dawson for Nome between Dec. 4, 1899, and March 1, 1900.

The record of twenty-one English war correspondents killed or dead of disease in the South African war, and as many more disabled, is a startling one, suggesting that, in some cases, the pen is mightier than the sword. It is not always a safer implement to use.

Twenty-five thousand eight hundred and sixteen vessels passed through the Baltic canal during the year ended March 31, 1899, the aggregate tonnage being 1,177,449, the total receipts amounted to \$188,490.

## OFFICIAL INTRIGUE.

WHY ALL THIS FUSS OVER IN CHINA.

England's Chestnuts Simply Being Baked Out of the Fire by Uncle Sam's Soldiers—Militarism Are Far Away from the Seat of War.

(Washington Letter.)  
The Republican platform lately excuses the refusal of the administration and the Republican party to express sympathy for the Boer republics struggling to maintain their liberty, by claiming that it has been the broken policy of this country not to intervene in European controversies. It was the first time in American history that a republic struggling to maintain its liberty or any people struggling for independence against despotic power failed to receive the official assurance of American sympathy. But how does it compare with the administration's interference in China? The weak excuse 's put forth that American troops and ships are being sent there to protect the lives of American citizens and to protect American interests. But the cold fact is that the lives of American missionaries have been more endangered by the attempt of foreign troops to force their way to Peking than by the Boers themselves. Practically all of the American missionaries took timely warning and escaped to the coast. Nine-tenths of the American missionaries are far remote from the points where the troops are operating. It is recognized that it is the duty of this government to protect the lives of American citizens abroad, but there are over two hundred claims of American citizens against foreign governments for injury to person, for loss of life and for destruction of property. These claims are sleeping on the dusty shelves of the state department.

The fact is that this excuse of protecting American interests and American lives is the veriest mask of hypocrisy. McKinley has gone into China to help save Great Britain's waning prestige. Outside of her naval forces, Great Britain hasn't a regiment of white troops in China.

Her forces are practically all troops from India, and even those are limited owing to the imminent danger of a tremendous racial revolution against British rule in that unhappy plague and famine-stricken country. Every paper in Europe points out that the American forces in China are acting under orders from London rather than from Washington. The force that was intrusted to the leadership of Admiral Seymour to go to the relief of the legations at Peking met the usual fate of British generalship, and blundered into an ambush of Boers. It was finally forced to retreat on Tsin-Tsin.

As it was, the forefront of the American commander, Capt. McCalla, saved the whole brigade from annihilation. He insisted on taking two weeks' supplies for his force, while the rest had but five days' provisions. These supplies were all that enabled the troops to withstand the fifteen days of marching and fighting to which they were subjected.

It is apparent that every effort is being made, especially by Great Britain, to keep the actual facts from the public, and to furnish garbled, distorted and colored reports. The cables are all under British control, and the same game is being played over the Chinese situation that has been played for the last twelve months in South Africa.

All the viceroys of China have united with the imperial government in pointing out the danger of this foreign invasion, yet the protest is treated with contempt, and Secretary Hay out of the British legation at Peking, and Minister Wu, the most intelligent and cultivated Chinaman ever accredited to the United States, and has threatened to send him his passports.

There are Chinese ministers at every European court, but no European power has made such a threat to the British as to demand that it is necessary to save McKinley's face, and to play politics by distracting public attention from the troubles in the Philippines, in Cuba, in Porto Rico and at home.

McKinley has gone to Canton and Hanna announces that the active Republican campaign will not begin before August. There is reason for this. In the first place, he wants to fry a lot of fat, and he wants to have the political situation clear up. Prosperity is the principal card in the Republican program. Prosperity is being raised with great rapidity for everybody except the trusts.

The iron market, which is always the best indication of commercial and industrial activity, has slumped to the bottom. Pig iron has dropped from a high of \$12.50 to \$10.00. A purchase is made at the bottom figure. Over thirty furnaces have gone out of blast, and twice as many more will shut down in July.

Wheat has gone up because the crop in the three states of Minnesota and North and South Dakota has practically been destroyed.

Cotton has gone up because the tremendous floods and rains of southern Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi have reduced the crop prospects to a million bales. The shoe business is the best possible barometer of individual prosperity, and it is in worse condition than any time in ten years. It is estimated that over one-third of the shoe shops in the United States are now closed down.

It is a well-known fact that international industrial and trade disturbances always react on the party in power. The country has all three, and it is a bad year for McKinley.

**NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM.**  
"To ten millions of the human race there was given a new birth of freedom" and to the American people a new and noble responsibility."

## THE CUBAN GARRISON.

There are nearly 15,000 federal troops in Cuba, and it is somewhat difficult to know that the municipal elections in the island are over, to find employment for this large body of soldiers, cavalry and artillerymen. The newly chosen local authorities and the courts of justice are quite capable of maintaining order, and the federal regiments and squadrons only represent the real ruling power in the island, with no duty to perform. It costs the government between \$16,000,000 and \$17,000,000 a year to keep this large garrison in Cuba.

With vast schemes of imperialism on hand elsewhere, the administration could scarcely be expected to take note of the surplusage of soldiers in a country which we are endeavoring to hold. The spectacle of a diminished army of soldiers in the island should suggest to the American people the near approach of the time for redeeming the national pledge to "leave the government and control of the island to its people." Before the municipal elections the federal military authorities had estimated the number of troops stationed in the island might be reduced by one-half. The absolute quiescence of the people in a season of political agitation and the overwhelming predominance in public affairs of the Nationalists are affiliated, afford additional evidence of the peaceful and stable character of the methods of civil administration in the Cuban provinces.

In addition to the unquestioned evil effects of military occupation of a peaceful country the federal authorities have also to consider the risks of malarial epidemic disease run by our soldiers in Cuba. Yellow fever is an enemy more to be dreaded than hostile troops, and flight is the best defense against it. At least 5,000 of the federal garrison now in Cuba should be released as speedily as may be from service in the island. There should be no playing politics in that quarter with the lives of American soldiers as counters.—Philadelphia Record.

**SCANDALS GROWING.**  
The Cuban scandal grows. The secretary of war's official statement to congress of public receipts and expenditures of the island during last year shows that out of the total revenue of \$14,000,000 over \$4,000,000 was disbursed for salaries, and \$1,377,000 more on the "labor pay roll."

This enormous disbursement of more than \$5,377,000 entirely for civilian employes and laborers, and does not cover the pay of the army troops, and it is to be remembered that our government in Cuba has been in theory at least a military government. A mass of items footing up a total of nearly \$600,000 are charged as "extraordinary expenses ordered by the military governor," but just what they were incurred for is not stated.

No wonder senators at Washington are amazed at the size and plain significance of these figures. No wonder there is a demand for a thorough and rigid investigation.

The looting of Cuba is the scandalous climax of an administration that has been most prolific in scandals.—New York World.

**"FAT FRYING" IS BEGUN.**  
The methods of the notorious Charles Dick, Republican representative from Ohio, who was secretary of the Republican national committee four years ago, and narrowly escaped indictment for his method of levying assessments upon federal officials in violation of the United States revised statutes, are to be surpassed this year out under the guise of a scheme which is pretended to be legal, though there is no doubt that it remains to be tested in the courts.

Mr. Hanna's committee has organized a "National and Industrial League" whose main, if not only, purpose is to collect \$5 a head from all four-class postmasters in the United States. Notices of this assessment, according to the best advice, were sent out May 1. On June 1, reminders or "ticklers" were forwarded to the delinquents. In order to conceal the supposedly illegal purpose of this assessment, every fourth-class postmaster has received ten tickets of membership in the so-called "National Commercial and Industrial League," with the request to dispose of them in his neighborhood.

Alleged on Platform.  
Ex-Governor John P. Algeid was asked his opinion of the Republican platform and ticket, and he gave it as follows:

"The platform is the same old confidence game that we have seen attempted before. The true character of the Republican management was manifest at the outset. It had to select a stock gambler for temporary chairman and a professed Pharisee for permanent chairman. The ticket is a combination of hypocritical cant, pompous posing and strenuous strutting. Every intelligent Republican in America knows that Mark Hanna, the arch-plutocrat and the man who has hung around them with his Republican party and shape its policy, and that consequently it would be an insult to the intelligence of the American people even to go through the farce of adopting a platform. England again has controlled an American national convention. There is no doubt that Hanna will get several million dollars with which to debauch American elections and perpetuate England's domination over American politics. What England failed to secure through her armies and her navies she has finally accomplished by controlling Republican politicians. She has succeeded in making the United States a tribute-paying colony, but Americans are slowly coming to understand the situation, and I believe that in November they will bury this corrupt, un-American, un-republican regime so deep that it never will be heard of again. Roosevelt has strutted himself to death. For his personal glory it is just as well that he was given a birth in the McKinley cabin, for he would not have been re-elected governor of New York. The people are tired of him."

**Fifty of the Matter.**  
From the Pittsburgh Post: The Democrats will find all the campaign ammunition they need in the action and nomination of the late senator of congress in his assertion of unconditional powers, his extravagance and waste, his green goods anti-trust amendment and his refusal to reduce oppressive and needless taxation—needed for any other purpose than to create a treasury surplus for job-bling purposes.

## SHIPBUILDING IN OLDEN DAYS.

Magnificent Ships Once Built by the Man With The Ax.

At the present time, when so much interest is centered on the ways and means for restoring the American mercantile marine to its former position as a great ocean carrier, it is well to take a brief retrospect of the innumerable natural resources of the country, combined with the talent, energy and enterprise of its people, which led to the great ship building era from '45 to '90, when the stars and bars were seen waving over magnificent specimens of American naval architecture in all parts of the world.

It is easy to imagine the profound astonishment of the first settlers of New England when they beheld the boundless parks of spreading oaks, birch and maple, and the sweet-scented groves of pines, spruce and fir of which the primeval forests of that period were composed. Solitary members of those vast wild woods dot the landscape at the present day, and their huge trunks, gnarled roots and twisted limbs testify to their multi-centennial endurance. For example, there are the Waverly oaks, aged over 400 years, according to the late Prof. Agassiz, and the Deadham giant, for which \$500 was

offered, and which was intended to assist in the construction of the Constitution, and there are many other trees in New England of historic reputation. These remnants of the past give some idea of what the wild old woods were like when the red man reigned supreme.

The first to take advantage of these splendid chances for shipbuilding were the members of the Popham colony, at the mouth of the Kennebec. The man with the broad ax first made his debut and constructed "a fair pliance of 10 tons" in 1607. It is said she crossed the Atlantic.

He next put in an appearance thirty years later at Ten Hill farm, on the Medford river, where the Blessing of the Bay, a ship of thirty tons, was built.

In 1670 the colonists had produced a man-of-war of fair proportions. The Massachusetts shipyards at this date had produced 30 vessels of 100 to 250 tons, 200 of 50 to 100 tons, 200 from 30 to 50 tons, and 300 from 10 to 30 tons. For a long period in the annals of ship building merchant vessels did not exceed 400 tons.

The accompanying illustration represents the America, of 320 tons, built at Salem in 1804 for Crowsnashel for East India voyages. She was 120 feet

and smoothness that was quite marvelous, and in due time from his chip, chip, chip, a noble ship would gracefully dip into the water, and from \$100 to \$150,000 would be added to the wealth of the country.

Among the shipbuilders who did much to bring this country into notice by their pronounced skill was Donald McKay of East Boston. His clipper ships were models of beauty and strength. Discarding all old precedents he boldly took up the canoe and constructed his great ship on the primitive Indian idea of a vessel. The White Squid, Flying Cloud, Sovereign of the Seas and the Great Republic were all ocean grayhounds of the period, and built by him, the last named, the largest of the vessels, being 325 feet over the keel, and 100 feet across the beam, by the French government as a troop ship, lasted 25 years, and finally disappeared with a load of coal on her way to Singapore.

The man with the broad ax is gradually disappearing. He is very hard to find in Canada, but a few of his tribes are still scattered along the New England coast, mainly on the Kennebec. It is probable the tribe will die out on the spot where the first blow of the broad ax was struck. The man with the rivet is the next step in

marine evolution. He is a noisy fellow, just a part of a machine, and he can never replace the quiet, contemplative philosopher in the red shirt and overalls who stood in the American shipyard in days that are past.

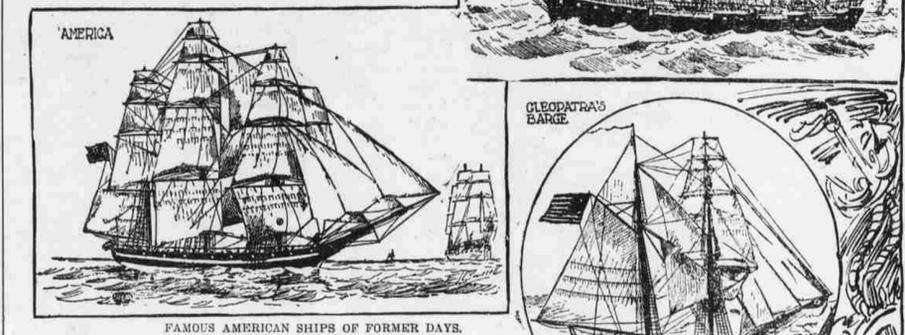
**A Forgotten Heroine.**  
Worthily won, the gaudy trappings of war have ever won feminine hearts. In recording the great services of our country of an almost forgotten revolutionary heroine, a writer has brought to light some remarkable romances. The heroine, tall, cultured, high-born, joined the Continental Army in the uniform of a man and served three years with conspicuous bravery. Her heroism brought her preference and into contact with the best people of the colonies, and at all times she was the center of social gatherings. She was the lion (or lioness). The girls adored the brave, soldier, confessed their love, and showered her with presents. "The Girl Who Fought in the Revolution" will be a feature of the July Ladies' Home Journal.

**Uncle Sam Keeps Accurate Books.**  
"It does not pay to rob the government," said Mr. R. A. Knott of Springfield, Ohio, at the Raleigh last evening. "I was a lieutenant in the army, and twenty years after the war was over I got word in a grave and solemn letter from Washington that something was wrong with my accounts, and that they could not be passed. It took me a long time to straighten out those accounts. There never was anything very much the matter with them, but they would not balance and that was sufficient to arouse the en-

# SHIPBUILDING IN OLDEN DAYS.

queen's late visit he was again on hand and again made a sale at the same high figure. Almost every great Englishman of the last half century has bought papers from "Davy" and stopped to chat with him.

**LONG COACH TRIP.**  
Man and His Wife Will Travel 2,900 Miles.  
Hackensack (N. J.) Cor. New York Sun: Four years ago Mr. John J. Phelps of "Red Towers," on the Hackensack, made the longest coaching trip on record with one team of four horses, covering a fraction more than 800 miles in New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. He is now preparing to at least double that distance, and he may make it 2,000 miles. For this purpose he recently purchased four fine sorrels, well matched, even-gaited trotters, rather light in weight, but said to be



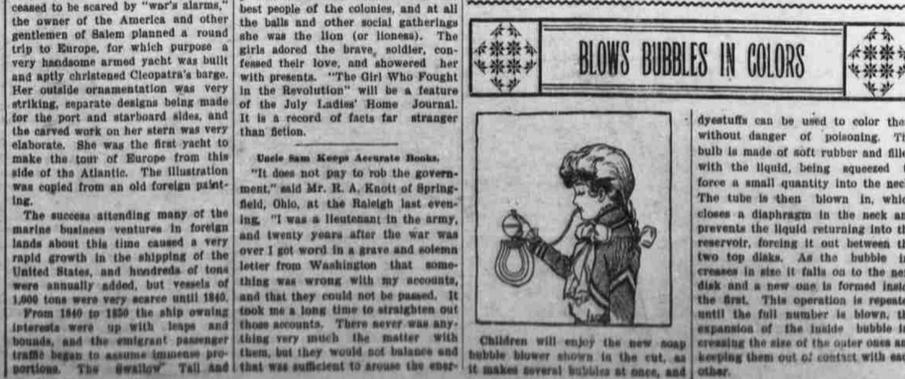
FAMOUS AMERICAN SHIPS OF FORMER DAYS.

of good blood and endurance. These he is now training for the long trip, which he expects to begin about the first week in June. Mr. Phelps has mapped out an itinerary of about three months, carrying him through northern New Jersey, across New York from Greenwood Lake to Middletown, Liberty, Hancock, Oswego, Binghamton, Utica, the lake region to Niagara Falls. Crossing to Canada he will visit Toronto, following the lake and St. Lawrence river to Montreal. Here he will recross to the United States and hit important points in Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut, returning by way of New York city. Mr. Phelps expects to accompany his band throughout the long drive, and friends from Hackensack, New York city and elsewhere will be guests during various stages. The vehicle used will be a strong break specially arranged with a view to comfort.

**PROTECTING SONG BIRDS.**  
Measures Adopted by the Swiss Government for That Purpose.  
"Switzerland has not many feathered songsters," says Frank T. Dubois, United States consul at St. Gall, "but those that do exist are carefully protected, not only by law, but by fostering care of the people, particularly the German-speaking people of Switzerland. In 1875 a law was enacted prohibiting the trapping or killing of song birds or the robbing or molesting of their nests, in any part of the Alpine republic. But in northern Italy bird murder is epidemic, and this spirit has spread over the Swiss-Italian canton of Tessin, where the willow wren, hedge sparrow, blackcap, swallow, nightingale, and little singers of the kind are victims of the trap, the net and the gun. As the seasons come and go the Swiss birds make their pilgrimages south, and in going and returning across the land of northern Italy and the Swiss Canton of Tessin, they are mercilessly pursued by hunters of all ages and classes. On the Lago Maggiore it is estimated that at least sixty thousand of the feathered songsters are trapped or killed every year, and in the region around Bergamo, Verona, Chiavenna and Brescia many millions are indiscriminately shot or killed. The demands of the tables and of millinery establishments of the world. One of the schemes is to cover the limbs of trees and rocks and even the telegraph wires, along the line of the bird migration with a certain paste of such adhesive qualities, that whenever the birds stop in their flight for rest or food they are held helpless captives. Hundreds are often captured in a very small space by this simple means. During the last year the border police of Tessin captured and destroyed thirteen thousand traps set to imprison these birds. Authorities are being urged to take the most rigorous measures to suppress the evil. The criminal courts are having many more bird law violation cases than formerly, and bird catching and killing crimes which in former years were either overlooked or punished only slightly are now dealt with seriously. The excellent laws are being enforced, and the song birds of Switzerland may yet survive the attempt to exterminate them."

**Not Sufficiently High Church.**  
The Boston Transcript tells of an Episcopal church that is being sued because it is not sufficiently "High Church." It appears that a certain person left money to this church, with the provision that the services should come up to a certain standard of churchmanship. The minister has failed, it is claimed, to get as much ritualism into the service, and the respondents of the flock as the money calls for.

**Blows Bubbles in Colors.**  
Dye-stuffs can be used to color them without danger of poisoning. The bulb is made of soft rubber and filled with the liquid, being squeezed to force a small quantity into the neck. The tube is then blown in, which closes a diaphragm in the neck and prevents the liquid returning into the reservoir, forcing it out between the two top disks. As the bubble increases in size it falls on to the next disk and a new one is formed inside the first. This operation is repeated until the full number is blown, the expansion of the inside bubble increasing the size of the service and separating them out of contact with each other.



Children will enjoy the new soap bubble blower shown in the cut. It makes several bubbles at once, and